

fice of the President to carry out this section, to remain available until expended.

(Pub. L. 87–128, title III, § 385H, as added Pub. L. 107–171, title VI, § 6030, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 411.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 2009dd–1, 2009dd–4 of this title.

SUBCHAPTER X—SEARCH GRANTS FOR SMALL COMMUNITIES

CODIFICATION

This subchapter was enacted as subtitle D (§§ 6301–6304) of title VI of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, and not as part of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act which comprises this chapter.

§ 2009ee. Definitions

In this subchapter:

(1) Council

The term “council” means an independent citizens’ council established by a State rural development director under section 2009ee–1(c) of this title.

(2) Environmental project

(A) In general

The term “environmental project” means a project that—

- (i) improves environmental quality; and
- (ii) is necessary to comply with an applicable environmental law (including a regulation).

(B) Inclusion

The term “environmental project” includes an initial feasibility study of a project.

(3) Region

The term “region” means a geographic area of a State, as determined by the State rural development director, in coordination with the environmental protection director of the State.

(4) SEARCH grant

The term “SEARCH grant” means a grant awarded under section 2009ee–1(f) of this title.

(5) Secretary

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(6) Small community

The term “small community” means an incorporated or unincorporated rural community with a population of 2,500 inhabitants or less.

(7) State

The term “State” has the meaning given the term in section 2009 of this title.

(Pub. L. 107–171, title VI, § 6301, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 421.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, and not as part of the

Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act which comprises this chapter.

§ 2009ee–1. SEARCH grant program

(a) In general

The Secretary, in coordination with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, may establish the SEARCH grant program.

(b) Allocation to State rural development directors

(1) In general

Subject to paragraph (2) and section 2009ee–3(a)(2) of this title, not later than 60 days after the date on which the Director of the Office of Management and Budget apportioned any amounts made available under this subchapter for any of fiscal years 2002 through 2007, the Secretary, on request of a State rural development director (in coordination with the environmental protection director of the State), shall allocate to the State rural development director an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000, to be used by the State rural development director to award SEARCH grants under subsection (d) of this section.

(2) Grants to States

The total amount of funds allocated to State rural development directors in all States other than Alaska, Hawaii, or the 48 contiguous States for a fiscal year under this subsection shall not exceed \$1,000,000.

(c) Independent citizens’ council

(1) Establishment

The State rural development director of a State shall establish an independent citizens’ council to carry out the duties described in this section.

(2) Composition

(A) In general

A council shall be composed of 9 members, appointed by the State rural development director, in coordination with the environmental protection director of the State.

(B) Representation; residence

Each member of a council shall—

- (i) represent an individual region of the State, as determined by the State rural development director; and
- (ii) reside in a small community in the State.

(d) Eligibility

A SEARCH grant shall be awarded under this section only to a small community for 1 or more environmental projects for which the small community—

- (1) needs funds to carry out initial feasibility or environmental studies as required by Federal or State law before applying to traditional funding sources; and
- (2) demonstrates that the small community has been unable to obtain sufficient funding from traditional funding sources.

(e) Applications

To be eligible to receive a SEARCH grant, a small community in a State shall submit to the

State rural development director of the State an application that includes—

- (1) a description of the proposed environmental project (including an explanation of how the project would assist the small community in complying with a Federal or State environmental law (including a regulation);
- (2) an explanation of why the project is important to the small community;
- (3) a description of all actions taken with respect to the project as of the date of the application, including any attempt to secure funding; and
- (4) a description of demonstrated need for funding for the project.

(f) Awards

(1) In general

Not later than May 1 of each fiscal year, a State rural development director, in coordination with the council and the environmental protection director of the State, shall—

- (A) review all applications received by the State rural development director under subsection (e) of this section; and
- (B) award SEARCH grants to small communities based on—
 - (i) an evaluation of whether the proposed project meets the eligibility criteria under subsection (d) of this section; and
 - (ii) the content of the application.

(2) Administration

In awarding a SEARCH grant, a State rural development director—

- (A) shall award the funds for any recommended environmental project in a timely and expeditious manner; and
- (B) shall not award a SEARCH grant to a grantee or project in violation of any Federal or State law (including a regulation).

(3) Matching requirement

A small community that receives a SEARCH grant under this section may be required to provide matching funds.

(g) Unexpended funds

(1) In general

If, for any fiscal year, any unexpended funds remain after SEARCH grants are awarded by a State rural development director under subsection (f) of this section, the State rural development director, in coordination with the environmental protection director of the State, may repeat the application and review process so that any remaining funds are recommended for award, and awarded, not later than July 30 of the fiscal year.

(2) Retention of funds

(A) In general

Any unexpended funds that are not awarded under subsection (f) of this section or paragraph (1) shall be retained by the State rural development director for award during the following fiscal year.

(B) Limitation

A State SEARCH account that accumulates a balance of unexpended funds described in subparagraph (A) in excess of

\$2,000,000 shall be ineligible to receive additional funds for SEARCH grants until such time as the State rural development director awards grants in the amount of the excess.

(Pub. L. 107-171, title VI, § 6302, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 422.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, and not as part of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act which comprises this chapter.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 2009ee, 2009ee-3 of this title.

§ 2009ee-2. Report

Not later than 30 days after the end of the first fiscal year for which SEARCH grants are awarded, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that—

- (1) describes the number of SEARCH grants awarded during the fiscal year;
- (2) identifies each small community that received a SEARCH grant during the fiscal year;
- (3) describes the project or purpose for which each SEARCH grant was awarded, including a statement of the benefit to public health or the environment of the environmental project receiving the grant funds; and
- (4) describes the status of each project or portion of a project for which a SEARCH grant was awarded, including a project or portion of a project for which a SEARCH grant was awarded for any previous fiscal year.

(Pub. L. 107-171, title VI, § 6303, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 424.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, and not as part of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act which comprises this chapter.

§ 2009ee-3. Funding

(a) Allocation to State rural development directors

(1) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out section 2009ee-1(b) of this title \$51,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2007, of which not to exceed \$1,000,000 shall be used to make grants under section 2009ee-1(b)(2) of this title.

(2) Actual appropriation

If funds to carry out section 2009ee-1(b) of this title are made available for a fiscal year in an amount that is less than the amount authorized under paragraph (1) for the fiscal year, the Secretary shall divide the appropriated funds for the fiscal year equally among the 50 States.

(b) Other expenses

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this sub-

chapter (other than section 2009ee-1(b) of this title).

(Pub. L. 107-171, title VI, § 6304, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 424.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, and not as part of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act which comprises this chapter.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 2009ee-1 of this title.

CHAPTER 51—FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

Sec.		Sec.	
2011.	Congressional declaration of policy.		
2012.	Definitions.		
2012a.	Publicly operated community health centers.		
2013.	Establishment of program.		
	(a) Use of coupons; redeemability.		(l) Custodial parent's cooperation with child support agencies.
	(b) Distribution of federally donated foods.		(m) Noncustodial parent's cooperation with child support agencies.
	(c) Regulations; transmittal of copy of regulations to Congressional committees prior to issuance.		(n) Disqualification for child support arrears.
2014.	Eligible households.	2016.	(o) Work requirement.
	(a) Income and other financial resources as substantial limiting factors in obtaining more nutritious diet; recipients under Social Security Act.		Issuance and use of coupons.
	(b) Eligibility standards.		(a) Printing.
	(c) Gross income standard.		(b) Approved food stores; receipt of cash in change for coupons used to purchase food.
	(d) Income excluded in computing household income.		(c) Design of coupons.
	(e) Deductions from income.		(d) Coupon level inventories; monitoring; monthly operations report.
	(f) Calculation of household income; prospective or retrospective accounting basis; consistency.		(e) Delivery and control procedures.
	(g) Allowable financial resources which eligible household may own.		(f) State issuance liability.
	(h) Temporary emergency standards of eligibility; Food Stamp Disaster Task Force; direct assistance to State and local officials.		(g) Alternative system or documents; costs.
	(i) Attribution of income and resources to sponsored aliens; coverage, computations, etc.		(h) Staggered issuance procedures.
	(j) Resource exemption for otherwise exempt households.		(i) Electronic benefit transfers.
	(k) Assistance to third parties included; educational benefits; exceptions.	2017.	(j) State option to issue benefits to certain individuals made ineligible by welfare reform.
	(l) Earnings to participants of on-the-job training programs; exception.		(k) Interoperability and portability of electronic benefit transfer transactions.
	(m) Simplified calculation of income for self-employed.		Value of allotment.
	(n) State options to simplify determination of child support payments.		(a) Calculation.
2015.	Eligibility disqualifications.		(b) Benefits not deemed income or resources for certain purposes.
	(a) Additional specific conditions rendering individuals ineligible.		(c) First month benefits prorated.
	(b) Fraud and misrepresentation; disqualification penalties; ineligibility period; applicable procedures.		(d) Reduction of public assistance benefits.
	(c) Refusal to provide necessary information.		(e) Allotments for households residing in centers.
	(d) Conditions of participation.		(f) Alternative procedures for residents of certain group facilities.
	(e) Students.	2018.	Approval of retail food stores and wholesale food concerns.
	(f) Aliens.		(a) Applications; qualifications; certificate of approval; periodic reauthorization.
	(g) Residents of States which provide State supplementary payments.		(b) Effective and efficient operation of program; effect of disqualification; posting of bond.
	(h) Transfer of assets to qualify.		(c) Information submitted by applicants; safeguards; disclosure to and use by State agencies.
	(i) Comparable treatment for disqualification.		(d) Hearing upon failure of applicant to receive approval; waiting period for new application.
	(j) Disqualification for receipt of multiple food stamp benefits.		(e) Reporting of abuses by public.
	(k) Disqualification of fleeing felons.		(f) Limitation on participation of household-to-house trade routes.
		2019.	Redemption of coupons.
		2020.	Administration.
			(a) State responsibility; records, inspection, and audit.
			(b) Correction of improper denials and underissuances.
			(c) Discrimination prohibited.
			(d) Plan of operation by State agency; approval by Secretary; Indians.
			(e) Requisites of State plan of operation.
			(f) Nutrition education.
			(g) State noncompliance; correction of failures.
			(h) Deposit by State to cover fraudulently or negligently issued coupons.
			(i) Application and denial procedures.
			(j) Notice of availability of benefits and applications; revision of memorandum of understanding.
			(k) Use of post offices.
			(l) Special financial audit review of high participation States.
			(m) Alaskan fee agents; use and services.